National Seminar on Azolla and Algae Biofertilizers

7105. SHRI S. MADHAVAN; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Seminar on Azolla and Algae Biofertilizers for Rice, held at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, has recommended to promote biofertilizers in rural areas and develop expertise on algae and azolla biofertili-sers; and

(b) if so, what are the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The recommendations have been submitted to the concerned Ministries like Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Department of Biotechnology.

A mission-mode project for development of biofertilizers has been launched by the Department of Biotechnology.

Production of Biofertilizers

7106. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the findings of the studies conducted in making use of thai technologies available for the large scale production of Bio fertilizers viz. Blue Green Algae for rice and Rhdzobio for oil seeds and leguminous crops; and

(b) what measures are being taken to educate the peasantry about the researches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Through the research and development, technology demonstration and training programmes, technology packages are available for large scale production of biofertilizers, i.e., blue green algae or rice and rhizobium for leguminious oil seeds and pulse crops. The conventional soil based production has been improved for BGA and agro-residue (carrier) based technology has been developed. Live liquid culture in polybags has been upscaled upto 20 litre. A novel seed coating methods for broadcasting has shown good results. Fermentation based production technology for reizobium has been developed and tried in the crops like chickpea mungbean, rajmash, and soyabean. Another technology package on exfoliated vermiculite has also been demonstrated.

(b) Training programmes for farmers, publications in local languages as booklets, hand-outs and publicity through Krishi Melas and audio-visual media have been used to educate the peasants. Demonstrations and field trials are conducted in the farmers fields. These help in creating awareness.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में मौसम विज्ञान केन्द्र स्थापित किया जाना

7107. श्री महेश्वर सिंह : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश के सभी राज्यों की राजधानियों में इस समय मौसम विज्ञान केन्द्र कार्यरत है जो कि कृषि, बागबानी, पर्यटन इत्यादि के लिए अत्यन्त महत्वपूर्ण सिद्ध हुए है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में इस प्रकार के केन्द्र की स्थापना नहीं की गई है और मौसम के बारे में पूर्वानुमान की घोषणा चण्डीगढ़ से की जाती है जोकि प्राय: गलत सिद्ध होती है जबकि इसकी तुलना में श्रीनगर से विशेषकर चम्बा और कुल्लू जिले

के लिए की गई घोषणायें प्रायः सही सिद्ध होती हैं ;

(ग) क्या भारत सरकार इस समस्या को ध्यान में रखते हुए हिमाचल प्रदेश के केन्द्रीय स्थानों में इस प्रकार के केन्द्र की स्थापना करने पर विचार करेगी; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री और परमाणु ऊर्जा, अन्तरिक्ष, विभागों तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी) : (क) जी हां, भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग ने खास क्षेत्रों के लिए मौसम वैज्ञानिक सेवायें उपलब्ध कराने हेतु देश के विभिन्न राज्यों की राजधानियों में 17 मौसम विज्ञान पूर्वानुमान केन्द्र स्थापित किए हैं ।

(ख) जी, हां । हिमाचल प्रदेश में कोई मौसम विज्ञान पूर्वानुमान केन्द्र नहीं है । चण्डीगढ़ का मौसम विज्ञान केन्द्र, पंजाब, हरियाणा एवं हिमाचल प्रदेश जिसमें उसके चम्बा तथा कुल्लू क्षेत्र भी शामिल हैं, के लिए मौसम पूर्वानुमान जारी करता है । अतः श्रीनगर (जम्मू और कश्मीर) स्थित मौसम विज्ञान केन्द्र हिमाचल प्रदेश के ऊपरी क्षेत्रों के लिए कोई मौसम पूर्वानुमान नहीं जारी करता है ।

(ग) और (घ) फिलहाल हिमाचल प्रदेश में मौसम विज्ञान केन्द्र स्थापित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—468

12.00 NOON.

Notification of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport (Shipping Wing)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYT-LER): Madam, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shipping Wing) Notification G.S.R. No. 110. dated the *26th* February, 1994, publishing the Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) Amendment Rules, 1994.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5915/94.)

Report and Accounts (1992-93) of the Indian Council of Forest Reseadch and Education Dehradun and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun for the year 1992-93, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5959/94.

Notification of the Ministry of Labour and other related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): Madam, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of sectoin 7 of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, a copy (in Einglish and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour Notification G.S.R. No. 153, dated the 26th March, 1994, publishing the Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance (Amendment) Scheme 1994, together with the Explana tory Memorandum thereon.